



## Worsening floods and deterioration pose threats to U.S. dam safety

By MICHAEL PHILLIS and  
JOHN HANNA

Associated Press

**ST. LOUIS (AP)** — Early last week, floodwater in rural Minnesota pushed debris against a more than century-old dam and then carved a path around it, eroding so much of the riverbank that most of a house fell into the river. Several days later, intense rain damaged a dam that holds drinking water for Houston, forcing officials to issue a potential failure warning.

"Something like this could happen, and it has happened, all over the country," said Del Shannon, former president of the U.S. Society on Dams.

There are roughly 90,000 significant dams in the U.S. At least 4,000 are in poor or unsatisfactory condition and could kill people or only harm the environment if they failed, according to data from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. They need inspections, upgrades and even emergency repairs.



Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz addresses media members Tuesday, July 2, 2024, at the Rapidan Dam, in Rapidan, Minn.

Associated Press  
Page 2

Continued on Page 2

BELGIAN BISTRO

# L'AVENUE

- ARUBA -

Now Open!

- Moules - Frites-
- Steak -
- Belgian Beers -

Located in the Cove mall. Palm Beach

• www.lavenuearuba.com +297 6996400

# Pinchos Grill & Bar

Now in its 20th plus year, owned and run by a local family.

Open 7 days a week, as of 5:00PM

Full Service Bar

Live Music on weekends

Reservations: (297) 583 2666 or reservations@pinchosgrillaruba.com



# Worsening floods and deterioration pose threats to U.S. dam safety

Continued from Front

It's a difficult problem in part because dams in the U.S. are roughly 60 years old, on average. It requires costly maintenance to keep decades of wear and tear from degrading dams, and resources to fix problems are often scarce, Shannon said. Blue Earth County owns the Rapidan dam, a 1910 hydroelectric dam in Minnesota that is still standing but was badly damaged last week by the second-worst flood in its history. The dam hasn't been producing power, as previous floods knocked out that small source of revenue. The county of roughly 70,000 people had been considering spending \$15 million on repairs or removing the dam at a cost of \$82 million.

"The dollar amounts we're talking about ... are big amounts for a county our size," said County Administrator Bob Meyer.

A federal inspection in May didn't find major problems at the Rapidan dam, which isn't considered to pose a major threat to people if it fully fails. A federal investigation is now expected. Debris clogged the dam during flooding, forcing the river to divert around it — the damage likely wasn't related to the dam's repair needs, Meyer said.

Dams are designed to withstand a lot of stress, but sometimes a flood will be too much and cause damage, according to Martin McCann Jr., director of the National Performance of Dams Program at Stanford University. Climate change may be making the problem worse in some parts of the country. A warming atmosphere holds more moisture, so bad rainstorms can release more water.

In Texas, officials said flooding damaged the Lake Livingston Dam's spillway about 65 miles (105 kilometers) northeast of Houston. They reassured the public that the dam is not in any immediate danger of failing.

The vast majority of dams are safe, and even when one does fail, deaths are

rare. But large dams hold back tremendous amounts of water and energy, so they carry enormous potential for downstream destruction. That's why even rare problems are such a concern for state and federal regulators.

In 2017, for example, heavy rain damaged the spillway at the Oroville Dam in California, forcing nearly 190,000 downstream residents to evacuate. And after storms in 2020, the Edenville Dam in Michigan breached. Water rushed downstream and overwhelmed another dam, causing it to fail, too. John France is an engineering consultant who led teams that investigated both of those incidents. He said that when many dams were built decades ago, engineers knew less about designing them to withstand floods. And although many were constructed far from populated areas, circumstances changed as cities and towns spread.

"There's this gradual building up of the hazard," France said.

After his teams' investigations, he's seen some improvements. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commis-

sion, which licenses hydroelectric dams, added more thorough inspections that review a dam's design and construction to find weaknesses. Some states have looked at incorporating these reviews and France hopes FERC's broader approach will spread to state oversight programs.

Most dams are privately owned and there's a huge need for resources — just fixing many of the country's most important dams could cost \$34 billion, according to a report by the Association of State Dam Safety Officials. Minnesota, for example, regulates about 1,000 dams and helps provide some funding, but officials said there's "a difference between demonstrated need and funds available." The Biden administration's infrastructure law provided a rare boost for upgrades. Dam owners are responsible for keeping their dams safe and they can be held liable if something goes wrong.

"We are one step away from holding bake sales to help the dam owners," quipped John Roche, a board member with the Association of State Dam Safety Officials. State of-

ficials try to help owners find grants so they can afford improvements. There is help, but there is even more need.

In southeastern Nebraska, the Nemaha Natural Resources District covers eight counties and raises about \$4 million a year from a small property tax. With that money it must maintain about 380 structures — the vast majority of which are dams — including the Wilson Creek Dam 9-C, a roughly 840-foot-long (255-meter-long) earthen structure built in the 1960s for flood control.

"Funding is probably our biggest uphill battle," said the district's general manager, Kyle Hauschild.

After a poor inspection result in 2022, the district rushed to fix a rusty spillway at the Wilson Creek dam. The district keeps a maintenance list and prioritizes older structures, but if the public doesn't see a problem with a dam, it tends to forget about it, Hauschild said.

States have limited power to pressure owners to fix problems. Roche said regulators try to work cooperatively, but if that doesn't

work, they can pressure owners by starting more confrontational enforcement proceedings.

"It takes a lot of diligence to keep enforcement actions moving along, as they can often take many years to resolve," Roche said.

In Colorado, officials consider whether a dam is a threat to humans and the severity of its defects. That helps them prioritize scrutiny and funding.

If an owner won't make needed upgrades, officials can wield a "regulatory hammer" and force owners to store less water behind their dams, reducing pressure and ensuring safety. That can kickstart action — less water in a reservoir can hurt the ability of dam owners to supply water to the communities they serve, for example, according to John Hunyadi who oversees dam safety in Colorado.

But in many states, officials can't order the worst owners to remove their dams, France said.

"All the state agencies ought to have that authority," he said, adding that if an owner refuses, the state should be able to do it themselves. □



Floodwater continues to carve a channel around the Rapidan Dam, Thursday, June 27, 2024, near Mankato, Minn.

Associated Press



# Why mass shootings and violence increase in the summer

By JOHN SEEWER  
Associated Press

Violence and mass shootings often surge in the summer months, especially around the Fourth of July, historically one of the deadliest days of the year.

A flurry of shootings around the holiday a year ago left more than a dozen people dead and over 60 wounded. Just two years ago, another mass shooting at a Fourth of July parade left seven people dead near Chicago. The mother of a 10-year-old boy left paralyzed by the attack said Wednesday that her family won't go to this year's parade, which is returning for the first time since the shooting.

"I don't know if we'll ever be able to attend the parade again," said Keely Roberts, who also was wounded.

The Gun Violence Archive, which tracks mass shootings involving four or more people regardless of whether they died, shows June, July, and August have had the highest total number of mass shootings over the past decade. The lowest totals were from December through March. Independence Day topped the list with 58 mass shootings over the last 10 years — closely followed by July 5, according to the archive. "It's the gathering, the free time, the drinking," said James Alan Fox, a criminologist and professor at Northeastern University, who



A woman wipes away tears after a mass shooting at an Independence Day parade that left seven people dead and dozens wounded, in the Chicago suburb Highland Park, July 4, 2022.

Associated Press

oversees a mass killings database maintained by The Associated Press and USA Today in partnership with the university.

In the first half of this year, there were 19 mass killings — 14 of them shootings — with at least four dead in the U.S., according to the database. In 2023, the nation recorded the highest number of mass shootings — 39 — since the tracking began.

Researchers point to a combination of factors that historically have caused the summer months to see an increase in violence and shootings.

School's out for the summer

Mass killings are far more likely to happen at a home and most often the victims are related to the shooter or are a close acquaintance.

When school is out, families are spending more time together, children are often home all day and there's a greater likelihood of more victims when everyone is under one roof, said Jesenia Pizarro, a criminology professor at Arizona State University.

Teenagers also have more idle time on their hands. "It's like the opportunity shifts in the summer," she said.

After two mass shootings hours apart in Dayton, Ohio,

left a total of three people dead and eight injured in late June, police said one of the shootings took place at a vacant house where hundreds of teens and young adults had gathered.

"It could have been a lot worse," said Eric Henderson, the city's assistant chief, who pointed out it was the third big party since mid-June where trouble erupted after young people took over a vacant house.

More social events, more drinking

Family reunions, block parties and festivals in the summertime all bring more people together — and create more

opportunities for trouble, more so when there's drinking involved.

"It doesn't mean that those kinds of things aren't around in March or in January. They're just around at a lower extent than they are in the summertime," said University of Miami criminologist Alex Piquero. "We do know that just about every summer there's an uptick in violence. So I fully anticipate that happening this summer. I fully anticipate it happening next summer and the summer after that." The likelihood of being a victim of a mass shooting is still extremely low, but it does mean there's the potential for more victims if something happens at a crowded event. During the first weekend of this summer, there were several shootings where multiple people were killed or wounded at large gatherings, including in Montgomery, Alabama, where gunfire erupted during an unsanctioned street party with more than 1,000 people. Police said nine people were shot and that investigators found more than 350 spent shell casings.

Tempers rise with hot temps Several studies have linked warm weather and hotter than normal temperatures with rising tempers — and not just in the summer. They also link the increased temps with more violent crimes, although other factors often come into play. □

## Open on July 4th: Retailers and airlines. Closed: Government, banks, stock market

Associated Press

**NEW YORK (AP)** — The Fourth of July holiday, also known as Independence Day, celebrates the Second Continental Congress' unanimous adoption of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776, a document announcing the colonies' separation from Great Britain. One year later, according to the Library of Congress, a spontaneous celebration in Philadelphia marked the anniversary of American independence. But observations weren't commonplace until after

the War of 1812, when they quickly took off. Congress was late to the party, finally passing a law making Independence Day a federal holiday on June 28, 1870.

Here's what is open and closed this year on the Fourth of July:

Government Buildings

Government offices, post offices, courts and schools are closed.

Banks and the stock market U.S. stock markets and banks are closed Thursday. Most FedEx and UPS pickup and delivery services will also not be available on Independence Day.

Retailers Warehouse membership club Costco said it would be closed on July 4th, but the vast majority of major national retailers will be open, with some offering promotional sales to lure customers. Hours may vary by location, so check your local store.

Travel

With the Fourth of July holiday falling on a Thursday, many Americans plan to take Friday off too, enabling them to travel for a long weekend.

Auto club AAA projects that 70.9 million travelers will head 50 miles or more



A shopper moves past a display of American flags in a Costco warehouse on May 18, 2024, in Sheridan, Colo.

Associated Press

from home over the holiday week from Saturday, June 29 to Sunday, July 7. The projected number of travelers for that period is 5% more than last year and 8% more than in 2019.

AAA projects a record 60.6 million people will travel

by car during the holiday week, 2.8 million more travelers than last year. AAA is forecasting that a record 5.74 million people will fly to their July Fourth destinations, an increase of nearly 7% over last year and a 12% jump over 2019. □



# The July 4th holiday rush is on. TSA expects to screen a record number of travelers this weekend

By **CODY JACKSON** and **DAVID KOENIG**  
**Associated Press**  
**WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. (AP)**

— Nicole Lindsay thought she could beat the holiday-week travel rush by booking an early-morning flight. It didn't work out that way.

"I thought it wouldn't be that busy, but it turned out to be quite busy," the Baltimore resident said as she herded her three daughters through Palm Beach International Airport in Florida. "It was a lot of kids on the flight, so it was kind of noisy — a lot of crying babies."

Lindsay said the flight was full, but her family arrived safely to spend a few days in Port Saint Lucie, so she was not complaining.

Airlines hope the outcome is just as good for millions of other passengers scheduled to take holiday flights over the next few days.

AAA forecasts that 70.9 million people will travel at least 50 miles (80 kilometers) from home over a nine-day stretch that began June 27, a 5% increase over the comparable period around the Fourth of July last year. Most of those people will drive, and the mo-



Travelers walk through the Philadelphia International Airport, Wednesday, July 3, 2024, in Philadelphia.

**Associated Press**

tor club says traffic will be the worst between 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. most days.

Federal officials expect air-travel records to fall as Americans turn the timing of July Fourth on a Thursday into a four-day — or longer — holiday weekend.

The Transportation Security Administration predicts that its officers will screen

more than 3 million travelers at U.S. airports on Sunday. That would top the June 23 mark of more than 2.99 million. American Airlines said Sunday is expected to be its busiest day of the entire summer; it plans more than 6,500 flights.

TSA was created after the terror attacks on Sept. 11, 2001, and replaced a collection of

private security companies that were hired by airlines. Eight of the 10 busiest days in TSA's history have come this year, as the number of travelers tops pre-pandemic levels.

The head of the agency, David Pekoske, said Wednesday that TSA has enough screeners to handle the expected crowds this weekend and

through the summer.

"We have been totally tested over the course of the last couple of months in being able to meet our wait-time standards of 10 minutes for a PreCheck passenger and 30 minutes for a standard passenger, so we are ready," Pekoske said on NBC's "Today" show.

Peggy Grundstrom, a frequent traveler from Massachusetts who flew to Florida to visit her daughter and granddaughter, said the line for security in Hartford, Connecticut, was unusually long. "It was busier than I have personally seen in the past," Grundstrom said. "But, you know, I prefer to fly unless it's very local. I'm at a stage where I don't want to travel in a car for long periods of time."

Passengers on a Delta Air Lines flight from Detroit to Amsterdam on Wednesday had to put their travel plans on hold for several hours when the plane landed in New York because spoiled meals were served in the main cabin shortly after takeoff.

Delta apologized to passengers "for the inconvenience and delay in their travels." □

## 2 of 5 people charged with conspiring to bribe Minnesota juror with a bag of cash plead not guilty



The office of Feeding Our Future is seen, Jan. 27, 2022, in St. Anthony, Minn., a week after an FBI raid.

**Associated Press**

By **MICHAEL GOLDBERG**  
**Associated Press**  
**MINNEAPOLIS (AP)** — Two of five people charged with conspiring to bribe a Minnesota juror with a bag of \$120,000 in cash in exchange for the acquittal

of defendants in one of the country's largest COVID-19-related fraud cases pleaded not guilty Wednesday. Said Shafii Farah and Abdulkarim Shafii Farah were arraigned before U.S. Magistrate Judge Tony Leung in

Minneapolis. They are each charged with one count of conspiracy to bribe a juror, one count of bribery of a juror and one count of corruptly influencing a juror. Leung ordered both men detained before trial, saying the crimes of which they are accused threaten foundational aspects of the judicial system.

"In my decades on the bench, I've not experienced an attempt at bribing a juror in such a pre-calculated and organized and executed way," Leung said. "That to me goes to the heart of an attack on our judicial system, on the rule of law."

Attorneys for Said Farah and Abdulkarim Farah asked Leung to consider releasing them before trial

with certain conditions, arguing the law sets no presumption of detention for the charges they face. They also said both men had significant ties to the community that would prevent them from fleeing. Assistant U.S. Attorney Joe Thompson said juror bribes are so rare as to be "nearly unprecedented." He likened the five Minnesota defendants to John Gotti, the notorious mob boss at whose 1987 trial a juror was later found to have taken a cash bribe to help secure an acquittal.

Leung said threatening the rule of law put the community at risk, and necessitated the detention of both men.

Court documents made public last week revealed

an extravagant scheme in which the accused researched the juror's personal information on social media, surveilled her, tracked her daily habits and bought a GPS device to install on her car. Authorities believe the defendants targeted the woman, known as "Juror 52," because she was the youngest and they believed her to be the only person of color on the panel. The FBI said the juror called police after Ali allegedly came to her house and handed a gift bag containing \$120,000 in cash to the juror's relative and explained there would be more money if the juror voted to acquit. The juror was removed from the case before deliberations began. □



# China is the runaway leader in generative AI patent applications followed by the US, the UN says

By JAMEY KEATEN

Associated Press

**GENEVA (AP)** — China has requested far more patents than any other country when it comes to generative AI, the U.N. intellectual property agency said Wednesday, with the United States a distant second.

The technology, which offers the potential to boost efficiency and speed up scientific discoveries but also raises concerns about jobs and workers, was linked to about 54,000 inventions in the decade through 2023, the World Intellectual Property Organization reported.

More than a quarter of those inventions emerged last year — a testament to the explosive growth and interest in the technology since generative AI vaulted into broad public consciousness in late 2022, WIPO said.

The new report on patents, the first of its kind, aims to track patent applications as a possible indication of trends in artificial intelligence. It focuses only on generative AI and excludes artificial intelligence more broadly, which includes technologies like facial recognition or autonomous driving. "WIPO hopes to give everyone a better understanding of where this fast-evolving technology is being developed, and where it is headed," WIPO



Director General the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) Daren Tang speaks during a press conference at the headquarters of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), in Geneva, Switzerland, Friday, Nov. 17, 2023.

Associated Press

Director-General Daren Tang told reporters.

Over the decade starting in 2014, over 38,200 generative AI inventions came from China. That's six times more than from the United States, which had nearly 6,300. They were trailed by South Korea with 4,155, Japan with more than 3,400 and India with 1,350. GenAI helps users create text, images, music, computer code and other content through the use of tools including ChatGPT from OpenAI, Google Gemini and Ernie from China's Baidu. The technology has been employed by many industries including the life sciences, manufacturing, transportation, security and telecommunications. Some critics fear that GenAI could replace workers in some types of jobs or improperly take human-generated content without fair or adequate compensation to the people behind it. As with other types of patent applications, WIPO officials

acknowledge that the quantity of GenAI patents doesn't indicate quality. It's hard to tell so early in the technology which patents will have market value or be transformative for society. "Let's see how the data and how the developments unfold over time," Tang said. The U.S. and China are often seen as rivals in the development of artificial intelligence, but by some measures U.S. tech companies are taking the lead in making the world's

most cutting-edge AI systems. "Looking at patents just paints one part of a narrative," said Nestor Maslej, a research manager at Stanford University's Institute for Human-Centered Artificial Intelligence, who added that patent approval rates can vary depending on a country's laws. "When you look at AI vibrancy, a very important question is who's releasing the best models, where are those models coming from and, at least by that metric, it seems like the United States is really far ahead," said Maslej, who edits Stanford's annual AI Index measuring the state of the technology. Sixty-one notable machine-learning models emerged from U.S.-based institutions in 2023, outpacing the European Union's 21 and China's 15, according to this year's AI Index. Of EU countries, France had the most, with eight. By another measure, the U.S. also has the most so-called AI foundation models — such as OpenAI's GPT-4, Anthropic's Claude 3, Gemini and Meta's Llama, which are huge, versatile and trained on massive datasets. The U.S. also has led China in private AI investments and the number of newly formed AI startups, while China has led in industrial robotics. □

## Japan's top court orders government to compensate disabled people forced to undergo sterilization

By MARI YAMAGUCHI

Associated Press

**TOKYO (AP)** — In a landmark decision, Japan's Supreme Court ordered the government Wednesday to pay suitable compensation to about a dozen victims who were forcibly sterilized under a now-defunct Eugenics Protection Law that was designed to eliminate offspring of people with disabilities. An estimated 25,000 people were sterilized between the 1950s and 1970s without consent to "prevent the birth of poor-quality descendants" under law, described by plaintiffs' lawyers as "the biggest human rights violation in the post-war era" in Japan. The supreme court said the 1948 eugenics law was unconstitutional and rejected the government's claim that the 20-year statute of limitations should prevent it from paying restitution. Wednesday's decision involved 11 of the 39 plaintiffs who fought at five lower courts across Japan to get their case heard by the country's top court. Cases involving the other litigants are still pending. The plaintiffs, a number of them in wheelchairs, held up signs saying "thank you" and

"victory" outside the court after the ruling. "I couldn't be happier and I could have never done this alone," said an 81-year-old plaintiff in Tokyo who uses the pseudonym Saburo Kita. Kita said he was sterilized in 1957 at age of 14 when he lived in an orphanage. He told his wife his long-buried secret just before she died several years ago, adding that he regretted their inability to have children because of him. Judge Saburo Tokura ruled that sterilization surgeries were performed "with no rational reasons" and in clear discrimination against

the plaintiffs because of their disability, according to court documents released by their lawyers. The court also said the procedure severely violated their dignity, adding that the continuous discrimination and severe violation of human rights for 48 years at the hands of the government was a very serious matter. □



The plaintiffs, their lawyers and supporters hold the signs reading "Winning lawsuit" outside the Supreme Court after in Tokyo, Japan, Wednesday, July 3, 2024.

Associated Press



# Israeli strike kills another senior Hezbollah commander as diplomats scramble for calm in Lebanon

By KAREEM CHEHAYEB

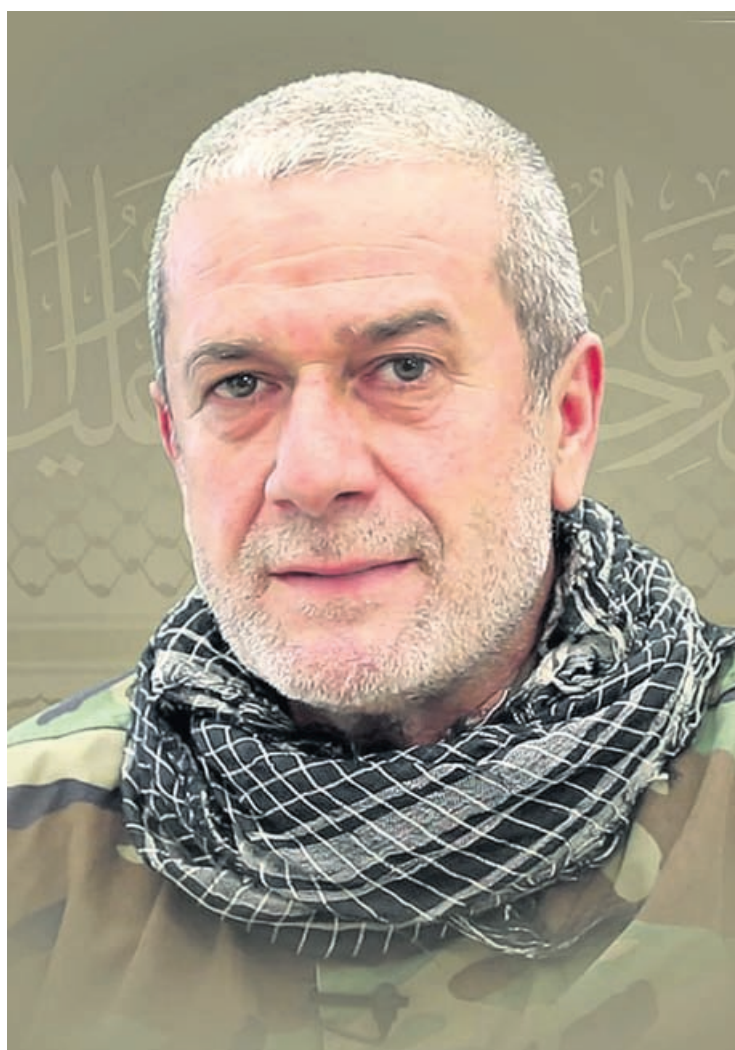
Associated Press

**BEIRUT (AP)** — An Israeli strike in southern Lebanon on Wednesday killed a senior Hezbollah commander as tensions between the two sides continue to boil, a Hezbollah official told The Associated Press.

The strike near the southern coastal city of Tyre took place as global diplomatic efforts have intensified in recent weeks to prevent escalating clashes between Hezbollah and the Israeli military from spiraling into an all-out war that could possibly lead to a direct confrontation between Israel and Iran.

A Hezbollah statement identified the killed commander as Mohammad Naameh Nasser, who went by the name "Abu Naameh," his nom de guerre. A Hezbollah official speaking anonymously in line with regulations, said he was head of the group's Aziz Unit, one of three regional divisions in southern Lebanon.

Nasser is the most senior official from the Iran-backed group killed since Taleb Sami Abdullah, who was killed in an airstrike June 11. Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah in a speech honoring Abdullah said he played a pivotal role on the front line since clashes began on Oct. 8 leading the Nasr Unit.



**This picture released by Hezbollah media relations office, shows a portrait of Hezbollah commander Mohammad Naameh Nasser, who was killed by an Israeli airstrike that hit his car, in the southern coastal town of Tyre, Lebanon, Wednesday, July 3, 2024. Associated Press**

Hezbollah said in response to the killing of Nasser, it launched Falaq rockets with heavy warheads targeting the headquarters of the Israeli military's 769th Brigade in Kiryat Shmona, as well as 100 salvos of Katyusha rockets targeting the headquarters of Israel's

210th division and the Kilaa air base in the Israeli-occupied Syrian Golan Heights. The group also shared footage of Nasser taking part in what they said was an operation at an Israeli military outpost in southern Lebanon in 1999 back when it was under occupation.

In a video circulated by local media, residents rushed toward a charred vehicle with a large plume of smoke. Civil Defense said its first responders transported an unnamed wounded person to a hospital.

The Israeli military acknowledged the attack, saying that Nasser alongside Abdullah are "two of the most significant Hezbollah" militants in southern Lebanon. It said Nasser led attacks from southwestern Lebanon.

Hezbollah launched rockets on northern Israel a day after a Hamas surprise attack on southern Israel in October, leading to limited clashes along the tense border. The attacks have since gradually escalated, with Hezbollah introducing new weapons in their attacks and Israel striking deeper into Lebanon.

The group maintains that it will stop its attacks once there is a cease-fire in the Gaza Strip. Until then, it says it will continue with its attacks to pile pressure on Israel and the international community. Israeli officials have threatened to launch a larger military operation should Hezbollah not stop its attacks.

Hezbollah deputy leader Sheikh Naim Kassem told The Associated Press in an interview Monday that Israel cannot expect the group's attacks to remain

limited should it launch a military operation within Lebanon, even if it aims to keep the conflict below the threshold of all-out war. Allies, including thousands of Iran-backed militiamen in Iraq, have offered to join Hezbollah on the front lines. Israeli airstrikes on Lebanon since October have killed over 450 people, most of them Hezbollah fighters, but the dead also include more than 80 civilians and non-combatants. On the Israeli side, 16 soldiers and 11 civilians have been killed since the war in Gaza began. Tens of thousands of people on both sides of the tense frontier have been displaced in the monthslong war.

Senior adviser to U.S. President Joe Biden, Amos Hochstein, who has been shuttling between Lebanon and Israel, is set to meet with French President Emmanuel Macron's Lebanon envoy Jean-Yves Le Drian in Paris on Wednesday as part of his ongoing diplomatic efforts to end the conflict.

French officials had invited Hochstein to the French capital to discuss the latest developments in their ongoing diplomatic scrambles, according to administration officials who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to comment publicly. □

# U.N. experts say Russia violated international law by imprisoning Wall Street Journal reporter



**Wall Street Journal reporter Evan Gershkovich stands in a glass cage in a courtroom in Yekaterinburg, Russia, Wednesday, June 26, 2024. Associated Press**

By JAMEY KEATEN

Associated Press

**GENEVA (AP)** — United Nations human rights experts say Russia violated international law by imprisoning Wall Street Journal reporter Evan Gershkovich and should release him "immediately." The Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, made up of independent experts convened by the U.N.'s top human rights body, said there was a "striking lack of any factual or legal substantiation"

for spying charges leveled against Gershkovich, 32.

The five-member group said Gershkovich's United States nationality has been a factor in his detention, and as a result the case against him was discriminatory. Matthew Gillett, the working group's chair, said its opinion was grounded in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which was adopted in 1966 and nearly all U.N. member countries have ratified.

"The covenant is something

that Russia has freely signed up to and accepted the obligations under, and therefore as a matter of international law, it is obliged to implement the provisions of the covenant," he said in an interview.

Gillett said Russia should provide Gershkovich "proper reparations" for holding him for over a year in detention without a legitimate basis. Gershkovich went on trial behind closed doors on Wednesday in the Russian city Yekaterinburg,

where he was arrested on March 29, 2023, while on a reporting trip on espionage charges that he, his employer and the U.S. government vehemently deny.

The U.N. group said in its findings that because the detention of Gershkovich was arbitrary, no trial should take place. The group cannot compel any response from Russia, and is mandated to look into cases in which countries violate international commitments that they make. □



## Aruba Hosts Relaxation Competition Presented by Olympic Athlete Shaun White



Recently, 100 visitors in Aruba received an unexpected surprise. They were invited to participate in a relaxation competition presented by none other than Olympic gold medalist Shaun White.

The event, which took place on Eagle Beach, according to NBC Miami, invited 100 tourists visiting Aruba who signed up for the competition after receiving a QR code during their stay at the island's hotels.

What did the competition entail? Simple, the participants just had to sit for more than an hour during the golden hour, at sunset, by the sea, and enjoy the evening breeze. However, the participants were completely disconnected from their phones and simply had to sit and relax.

Nonetheless, the competition came with some surprises. The American portal indicated that the participants received a heart rate monitor to measure their heart rate and faced some tests to see if they could truly stay on "island time" despite the disturbances happening around them.

"We wanted to run these tests to try to accelerate people's heart rates," White



said in an interview with NBC Local. "We had kids running around, throwing sand, or starting water gun fights."

White said he had a lot of fun presenting the event and that people were asking what he would do to prepare for such an event. He just advised people to stay calm and focus on the beautiful Caribbean island around them.

"I think it's pretty hard to stress when you're there. Everyone is on 'island time,' it's just the most relaxing and incredible place," White said.

The winner of the competition will receive the title of "The Most Relaxed Person in the World" when the competition airs in August. The top three winners will receive an incredible prize for their relaxing performance. □

## Yesterday marked World Seabird Day



Globally, there are 50 species of terns, of which 20% breed on Aruba. Worldwide, there are some places where five species of terns breed, while in Aruba there are ten. This makes Aruba possibly the only place where this occurs.

In 2007, the reefs of San Nicolas were declared a Globally Important Bird Area by BirdLife International due to their high concentration of Brown and Black Noddies, Roseate Terns, Royal Terns, Least Terns, Common Terns, Bridled Terns, Sooty Terns, Sandwich Terns, and Cayenne Terns, which are different types of terns.

Around 20% of all Cayenne Terns, 40% of Black Noddies, and 60% of the world's Common Terns breed on our island. It is estimated that 6,600 pairs of Bridled Terns and 5,000 Cayenne Terns breed in Aruba.

Along our entire northern coast, Least Terns, Common Terns, and Roseate Terns breed.

Aruba's territory is of utmost importance for these bird species globally. Let's learn to recognize and appreciate our nature so we can give it the treatment it deserves! □



### Important announcement: Conchi closed until further notice



Due to current weather and water conditions caused by Hurricane Beryl and for the safety of our associates and visitors, the Aruba Conservation Foundation (ACF) has announced that the Natural Pool will be closed until further notice and beaches located inside Parke Nacional Arikok remain no swimming.

We advice all visitors to stay off the coast due to rough high seas. For more information, please call 585-1234 or email [info@acf.aw](mailto:info@acf.aw).





## Papillon: Where Culinary Tradition Sparks with Timeless Elegance



**Tucked away in the vibrant heart of the Village for over a decade and a half, Papillon isn't just a restaurant; it's a culinary adventure waiting to unfold. Picture this: a sanctuary where the flavors of the French Caribbean have danced harmoniously with classic French fare for the past 15 years, all set against the backdrop of a movie-inspired ambiance that's as enchanting as it is welcoming.**

Located in the heart of Palm Beach and within walking distance from hotels and local markets in the area, Papillon takes the famous story of a French man experiencing the flavors and culture of the Caribbean and incorporates these aspects of the Caribbean touch into their French culinary repertoire. Step through the doors of the newly-expanded Papillon, and you're not just stepping into a dining establishment; you're stepping into a world where sophistication embraces you like an old friend. The decor, a homage to the allure of the iconic film, casts a spell of intimacy and comfort, urging you to settle in and relish every moment. Here, dining isn't just about sustenance; it's about indulging in an experience meticulously crafted to ignite your senses.

At the heart of Papillon's magic lies its menu – a symphony of flavors orchestrated by culinary artisans. Imagine savoring the decadent richness of foie gras or the sublime delicacy of frog legs, each dish a love letter to tradition infused with a dash of innovation. And oh, the spectacle of the Dover sole being expertly prepared table-side! It's culinary theater at its finest, leaving you spellbound with every bite. All this served with a backdrop of the Caribbean ambience, complete with live musical performances and an inviting and colorful twist to your dinner experience!

But wait, there's more! Enter the realm of the Chef's Table, a weekly extravaganza led by the maestro himself, Executive Chef Juan Ludeña. Prepare to be whisked away on a six-course odyssey, each dish meticulously paired with wines handpicked from the largest French wine selection on the island by the esteemed Maitre d' Michael Otten. It's a soirée reserved for those who truly appreciate the artistry of gastronomy – an exquisite symphony for the palate.



In essence, Papillon isn't just a restaurant; it's an oasis for epicurean explorers. It's where passion meets refinement, where every dish is a masterpiece waiting to be savored, and every moment is a celebration of the finer things in life. So if you're craving the warmth of French Caribbean delights, Papillon invites you to join them on an unforgettable journey for the senses. Bon appétit!

Papillon is located in Palm Beach in front of the Hilton Resort, and open from 5pm to 10pm. Early Bird takes places from 5pm to 7pm. For reservations or more information please contact the restaurant at +297 699 5400, e-mail them at [info@papillonaruba.com](mailto:info@papillonaruba.com) or visit their website at [papillonaruba.com](http://papillonaruba.com)





## 2,000,000 SUMMER POINT GIVEAWAY – 20 WINNERS DAILY

**BONUS**  
**B I N G O**  
**THURSDAY!**

Bonus 4-Card BINGO  
starting at 1pm!

\$7 for 4-Card BINGO | 8 Games to Play

**\$1,500 in Cash Prizes**

**SPECIAL PROGRESSIVE GAME**

Jackpot within 50 Calls | 51 Calls or more \$111

Additional \$500 Cash Prize in our  
Monthly Early Bird Drawing when you  
purchase your card before noon!

## THE SHOPS AT ALHAMBRA CASINO

Auntie Anne's Pretzels | Aruba Aloe | Baskin-Robbins  
Juan Valdez Café | Hungry Piranha - Pizza, Wings & More  
The Brownstone Ribs and Seafood | The Market | M8 Boutique  
Fusion - Piano Wine & Cigar Bar | Shalom Body & Soul Spa  
Magnet Perfume Jewelry & Cosmetics | The Lazy Lizard  
Shalom Hair & Nails Bar | Twist of Flavors | Dunkin Donuts

**Alhambra**  
CASINO AND SHOPS

Open daily 10am to 3am | J.E. Irausquin Blvd #47 | 583.5000 | casinoalhambra.com

Play Responsibly. Visit [www.gamblersanonymous.org](http://www.gamblersanonymous.org) if you or someone you know has a gambling problem.



## Bucuti & Tara and Drone Shows Aruba Light Up the Sky with an Unforgettable Show on July 4

This July 4, Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort, the first and only Carbon Neutral certified resort in the Caribbean, is set to dazzle its guests with an extraordinary and unique drone show operated by Drone Shows Aruba—the only drone show company in Aruba. This innovative and environmentally friendly demonstration offers an alternative to traditional fireworks, highlighting the resort's ongoing commitment to environmental sustainability.

### A Decades-Long Commitment to Sustainability

For over three decades, as a pioneer and exemplar of sustainable tourism internationally, Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort has eliminated the use of fireworks to protect the local ecosystem. This year's drone

show is a testament to the resort's firm commitment to environmentally friendly practices, offering a mesmerizing visual experience that honors nature.

Traditional fireworks, though visually impressive, pose environmental risks. They release harmful chemicals and heavy metals into the air, which can contaminate land and water sources. Additionally, the loud explosions can disturb animals, causing them stress and disorientation. By opting for a drone show, Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort eliminates these dangers, offering an equally captivating display without endangering the environment.

"Our dedication to protecting the environment has always been at the core of our operations," said Ewald Biemans, owner

of Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort. "Introducing a drone show is a testament to our commitment to sustainability, allowing us to celebrate special occasions in a way that respects and preserves the natural beauty of Aruba."

### Exclusive Experiences at Elements Restaurant

The drone show will light up the sky at 8:30 PM on July 4. Resort guests and external visitors are invited to make the experience even more memorable with exclusive dining options at the renowned and internationally acclaimed adults-only Elements Restaurant. Choose from:

- Dinner on the Elements Deck: Enjoy a delicious à-la-carte dinner with a perfect view of the drone show and re-



ceive a complimentary glass of Veuve Ambal Crémant de Bourgogne.

- Private Loveseat Experience on the Beach: For \$70 per couple, savor a bottle of Veuve Ambal Crémant de Bourgogne and canapés in an intimate setting.

Both options offer excellent vantage points for the drone show while maintaining the tranquil, adults-only concept, ensuring a serene

and sophisticated environment. Reservations are required due to limited availability.

"We are excited to share this exceptional experience with our guests and visitors," added Biemans. "Celebrating America's Independence Day in a way that aligns with our values and dedication to sustainability is something we are very proud of."

Learn more by visiting [Bucuti.com](http://Bucuti.com). □

## Aruba Tourism Authority honored a loyal visitor at Costa Linda Beach Resort!



The Aruba Tourism Authority recently had the great pleasure of recognizing a Goodwill Ambassador of Aruba. The honoree was respectfully honored with a certificate for his years of visits, loyalty, and love for the island of Aruba.

The honorary certification is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation and to say "Masha Danki" to guests who have visited Aruba 10, 20, or 35 years or more consecutively.

### The three levels of honor are as follows:

Distinguished Visitor (10>years

consecutively visiting Aruba)  
Goodwill Ambassador (20>years consecutively visiting Aruba)  
Emerald Ambassador (35>years consecutively visiting Aruba)

### The honoree was:

Goodwill Ambassador  
Mr. Sam Meschino from Rochester New York, United States.

Mr. Jorgino Willems representing the Aruba Tourism Authority, and staff members of Costa Linda Beach Resort bestowed the certificate upon the honoree, presented him with gifts, and thanked him for choosing

Aruba as his favorite vacation destination, as his home away from home.

The top reasons for returning to Aruba provided by the honoree was:

- Aruba's pristine waters.
- Aruba's beach.
- Aruba's weather.
- Aruba's safety.
- "Friends we have made over the years"

On behalf of the Aruba Tourism Authority, we would like to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation to the honoree for his continued visits to the "One Happy Island". □



## Fruit Loose & Veggie Boost: Aruban fruits and vegetables

**Fresh fruits make a tropical holiday's picture complete. Whether you see the mangoes hanging in the trees or the fresh fruit cocktail on the side table of your pool bed, the link is there: you are in the tropics. Aruba grows her own fruits and veggies and there are some pretty out-of-space local species you may never had heard of, but really healthy and delicious.**

### Mispel

This is a fruit with a character (5-10 cm/2-4 inches). It does not ripe until it is picked or falls off the tree. Mispel is hard with a sandpaper like texture when immature, soft and juicy when ripe. It's technically a berry, but contains a skin similar to that of a kiwi. It's grainy and sweet, with a light, musky flavor. The sap or gum from the tree is also a source of 'chicle' the original ingredient used to make chewing gum. Rich in tannins, antioxidants shown to contain anti-inflammatory compounds, and vitamin C, essential for healthy immune function. Season: year-round.

### Kenepa



Ovoid green fruit that grows in bunches on trees up to 30m high. The fruit is related to the lychee and have tight, thin but rigid skins. Inside the skin is the tart, tangy, or sweet pulp of the fruit covering a large seed. The pulp is usually cream or orange colored. Kenepa strengthens the immune system, and prevents the reproduction of bacteria and viruses in the body. This fruit is highly recommended to treat lung infections and urinary tract infections. It also helps to cure insomnia and rejuvenates the nervous system. Season: the fruit typically ripen during the summer.

### Druif



There is no chance you did not bump into one of the sea grape trees while spending your vacation on Aruba. The sea grape plant is often used in ocean-side landscaping in sandy soil right on the beach and it produces clusters of

fruit that resemble grapes. Are sea grapes edible? Yes, they are. Animals enjoy sea grapes and humans can eat them as well, and they are used to make jam. They contain very low calories and sugar, enabling good bacterium to digest food and excrete waste quickly which is effective in preventing constipation. Season: Sep-Oct.

### Shimarucu



Maybe Aruba's most popular wild fruit tree. You may have noticed cars at the side of the road and people picking those red berries. Well, that's Shimarucu. The local habit to stop for these delicious fruits goes from generation to generation. Its fruit's degree of sour depends on the amount of rain it gets. Red Shimarucus tend to taste better than orange. The fruit has super power: a true vitamin bomb. Adults only need to eat 3-4 of these berries to meet their daily recommended amount of Vitamin C. Season: Rainy months (Oct-Jan).

### Tamarind



A delicious, sweet fruit that has a wide variety of uses and applications, both for medicinal and culinary purposes. It is a medium-sized bushy tree with evergreen leaves and fruit that develops in pods characterized by long, brown shells. Inside is a sticky, fleshy, juicy pulp, which is the Tamarind fruit. Both sweet and sour in taste, the fruit contains a significant level of vitamin C, as well as vitamin E, B vitamins, calcium, iron, phosphorous, potassium, manganese, and dietary fiber. There are also a number of organic compounds that make tamarind a powerful antioxidant and anti-inflammatory agent. Season: March.

When it comes to veggies the island certainly offers a home-grown selection. They taste delicious and have their specific talents to boost your immune system. Start the day with a 'batida' (smoothie) enriched with a local veggie touch or select your restaurant that offers local vegetable dishes to get the real pure taste of it.

### Comcomber chiquito

This is a sort of local squash, but looks like a cucumber with prickly skin. The taste however is bitterer than the cucumber and the vegetable is smaller in size but bigger in width. Inside is a soft, fleshy pulp and seeds, just like the cucumber. Comcomber chiquito is grown in the island and used in salads and 'stoba' (stew) or on its own in vinegar. The veggie contains multiple B vitamins, including vitamin B1, vitamin B5, and vitamin B7 (biotin). B vitamins are known to help ease feelings of anxiety and buffer some of the damaging effects of stress. Additionally this veggie is rich in two of the most basic elements needed for healthy digestion: water and fiber. Season: year-round.

### Yambo

Family of Okra, also known as 'lady's fingers': a green flowering plant. Okra belongs to the same plant family as hibiscus and cotton. A classic favorite dish in Aruba is Sopi di yambo. It has long been favored as a food for the health-conscious. It contains potassium, vitamin B, vitamin C, folic acid, and calcium. It's low in calories and has a high dietary fiber content. Recently, a new benefit of including okra in your diet is being considered. Okra has been suggested to help manage blood sugar in cases of type 1, type 2, and gestational diabetes. Season: year-round.

### Bonch'i Cunucu

A long, small bean, boiled for a side dish or snack. Long beans have a chewy, crunchy texture—more so than snap beans—and a flavor reminiscent of the dry navy bean or asparagus. Besides stir-fry, soups and salads, the long bean is a good choice for stewing, braising (to remain chewy and firm), sautéing, shallow frying, and deep frying. With cooking, the long bean's bean flavor intensifies. Long beans are low in calories, about 45 calories per cup, and rich in vitamin A and also contain vitamin C and potassium. Season: year-round.

### Pampuna



In the endless summer of Caribbean living we only have to concern ourselves with a wet season and a dry season. Still we do indulge heavily in the pleasures of pumpkin and enjoy Caribbean pumpkin recipes year round. A popular dish in Aruban restaurants is Sopa Di Pampuna, don't miss it. This dish is made of pumpkin soup, and parsley. Pumpkins are rich in flavonoid polyphenolic antioxidants such as xanthin, lutein and carotenes and also contain vitamins. Pumpkin seeds are a good source of omega-3 fatty acids, vitamins, minerals and proteins. Pumpkins are used to make desserts, breads and soups. □



## A brief history of the California Light House



**(Oranjestad)—At the furthest western point of the island, there lies the tallest structure on the island: The California Light House. Standing on top of a limestone cliff, this lighthouse oversees the entire island, offering one of few best views of the island and the surrounding sea. It is also one of the few monuments that hold a rich history.**

The lighthouse was constructed in between 1914-1916, and its first keeper was a young trained lighthouse keeper from Curacao names Jacob Jacobs. Mr. Frederico Fingal was the last man to have occupied this position until 1962. Though his son, Mr. Romulo Fingal did not continue in his father's footsteps, he does have a special connection to the lighthouse. He sat down with our reporter and shared a bit of its history.

As Mr. Fingal explains, "In 1915, cargo donkeys were hired from Figaroa di Noord to help build the Lighthouse at Westpunt. The donkeys had to walk along the beach all the way to Westpunt carrying the cargo, poles, cement, and all these things. At that time, it was a difficult task until Aruba got its first truck. These things reflect how people could have accomplished this tremendous job with so little." Mr. Fingal said, "At that time, it wasn't a place for people to work.



It was very challenging because it was full of goats and donkeys, and it was very isolated. There were no hotels or roads to get there. There was only a donkey trail. Those were the only means of transportation."

Mr. Fingal continues, "In 1939, I was born in the lighthouse, and my father was the last lighthouse keeper until he retired in 1962. After that, they removed the power cables all the way to the top. According to the story, we couldn't have the light ourselves because they dismantled it, and after many years, I heard that it is in a train museum in San Nicolas, where we found this very special lens that, when the light shines through it, it reaches 30 kilometers out to sea." Mr. Fingal told our reporter.

The lighthouse has a long and very interesting history. The reason why the lighthouse was built, according

to Mr. Fingal, dates back to the day when the cargo ship S.S. California sank because of the lack of light. In 1913, Aruba made a request to Curacao to build a Lighthouse at Westpunt, and the governor of Curacao responded to Aruba to come back in 1915 with a well-detailed plan. "During the First World War from 1914 to 1918, they had to wait for the light to be transported to Aruba because it was manufactured in France. At that time, there was no electricity, and the light was very interesting because it rotated with a kerosene lamp that planes used; clean kerosene," Mr. Fingal said.

Mr. Fingal discovered something very interesting about the lighthouse after much research was documented in his book 'History of the Lighthouse at Westpunt.' He found many details: "I found out that the height of the lighthouse was due to the absence of electricity. There was also the presence of coral. There is a long steel cable from where the light is, and under the light, at the highest point, there is a hanging weight, a sort of pendulum that swings like that, with a weight that measures about 1 meter by 30 centimeters wide, which is a block of solid iron attached to a cable. When you release it upwards, it comes down, and the weight that comes down

pulls it up, gradually. And while it comes down, the same weight that is descending causes many small wheels to turn in the opposite direction. The Lighthouse rotates from 6 pm in the evening, when the sun sets, until 6 am in the morning. During the entire night, the light shines on the lantern, it goes down 24 meters, and the Lighthouse is 30 meters high. It is designed not to collapse," Mr. Fingal explains.

Mr. Fingal further explains that in one night, the lighthouse rotates 4,320 times and consumes one gallon of kerosene for the whole operation. "At that time, the kerosene was supplied from the Lago refinery. Every day it was brought down, and to start the light again, they had to lift the weight up, so our job as children was to crank it and raise the weight back up in the evening when the light stuck, they would take it down again, and the light stayed down. That's how it worked for a very long time," Mr. Fingal explains.

Thanks to the Monument Fund Aruba, which worked hard and is currently in charge of the Lighthouse, Mr. Fingal is very happy with its preservation, along with all the renovations that have taken place. He hopes that the story of the lighthouse will continue to live on for future generations. □



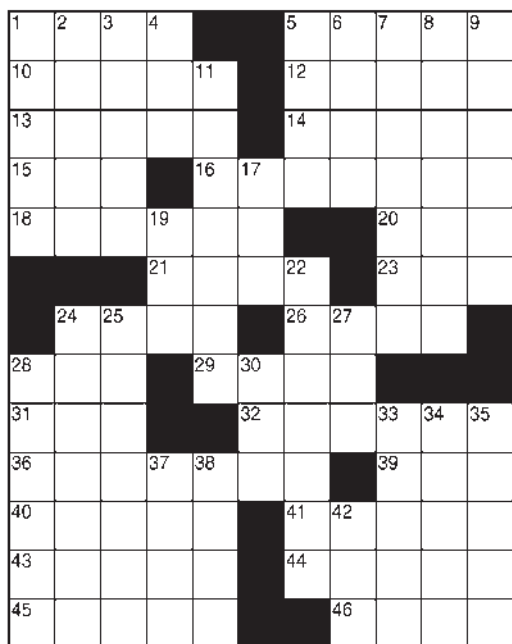
# CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 44 Kind of boom
- 1 Seize
- 5 Many viral posts
- 10 Purple hue
- 12 "Hello" singer
- 13 Texas player
- 14 Striped cat
- 15 Last letter
- 16 Draw attention away from
- 18 Madden
- 20 Sandy color
- 21 Plucked instrument
- 23 Early hour
- 24 Sirius, for one
- 26 Budget item
- 28 Pool need
- 29 Fake coin
- 31 Thurman of film
- 32 Hire
- 36 Run riot
- 39 Cowboy nickname
- 40 Not moving
- 41 Avignon's river
- 43 Bert's buddy
- DOWN**
- 1 Pottery coat
- 2 Out of bed
- 3 Change
- 4 Butter unit
- 5 Yoga
- 6 Fix text
- 7 Bomb unit
- 8 Posh
- 9 Placid
- 11 Mountain lions
- 17 Pricing word
- 19 Cry of insight
- 22 Hedge trimmers
- 24 Indone-sian island
- 25 Joining forces
- 27 Chick holder
- 28 "Drat!"
- 30 Relay section
- 33 Make amends
- 34 Wish granter
- 35 Busi-ness
- 37 Ballet bend
- 38 Brighton brews
- 42 Blazing

IRISES ACHE  
TURTLE CROW  
SESAME TOTE  
COSMIC  
WACK AVOWS  
ASH RAKED IN  
TSA OLE IDO  
TEMPLES LEO  
STEEL SENT  
LOST TIT  
STEP HARBOR  
POOL IGUANA  
ANNE NOT YET

## Yesterday's answer



4-11

AXYDLBAAXR  
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

4-11

## CRYPTOQUOTE

L YFC TIQQ GR CSQZLEY.  
VISCD WFNQV EFC YIC S TFAV  
L E I V Y I T L J I , Y A I T  
V L J W F N A S Y I V , S E V C A S U I Q I V  
F E . — Q F N L J I I A V A L W D ,  
" C A S W Z J "

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: WE'RE FOOLS  
WHETHER WE DANCE OR NOT, SO WE MIGHT AS  
WELL DANCE. — JAPANESE PROVERB

## Cruise ship Schedule: July 01 - July 30 2024

			ARR	DEPT	BERTH	
THU	04	CELEBRITY BEYOND	08.00	21.00	C	1
TUE	09	ADVENTURE OF THE SEAS CARNIVAL HORIZON	08.00 09.00	20.00 22.00	B C	1 1
WED	10	RHAPSODY OF THE SEAS	09.00	21.00	C	1
TUE	16	CARNIVAL CELEBRATION CARNIVAL VISTA	08.00 13.00	22.00 23.00	C I	1 1
WED	17	CELEBRITY BEYOND	08.00	21.00	C	1
TUE	23	CARNIVAL HORIZON	09.00	22.00	C	1
TUE	30	CELEBRITY BEYOND	08.00	21.00	C	1

## Helpful tips for your stay on Aruba

(Oranjestad)—When traveling to another country, especially for the first time, it is always better to be over-prepared than under-prepared. That is why we have a list of basic—but important—information that we think may come in handy to Aruba's visitors.

lets used on the island: type A with two flat prongs; type B with two flat and one grounding prong, and on occasion, type F with two round prong and two earth clips on the side. However, Type A is most commonly found in homes and establishments.

### Supermarket hours



Supermarket hours may vary depending on where you are staying on the island. Generally though, most supermarkets are open from 8am to 9 or 10pm, Monday through Saturday. On Sundays, supermarkets generally close earlier; mostly around 2pm.

### Electrical power



Aruba generally operates on 110V to 127V supply voltage and 60Hz. There are also three types of out-

### Drinking water



The water that flows through the sinks of every house, hotels and other establishments is distilled and perfectly safe to drink. Aruba's drinking water exceeds WHO's international standards for water quality, so there is no need to buy bottled water from the store.

### Safety



Since February 2024, Aruba has been categorized as the safest country in the Caribbean by The Telegraph, and many tourist that visit have often told us how they feel safe to explore the island or walk around at night. However, rare incidents do occurs, so keep yourself and your belongings safe.

**Honey Dolls**  
MASSAGE AND ESCORT SERVICE

**Beautiful Latin Girls**  
Pick-up & Delivery

Serving Men - Couple - Women - All Genders

+297 565-9535

WWW.PLEASUREINARUBA.COM

24/7





Mike Viesel and his dog Humi, wait in his flooded car for a tow, June 12, 2024, in Hollywood, Fla.

Associated Press

## Hurricane season 2024 is here. Here's how to stay prepared

By STEPHANY MATAT  
Associated Press

**WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. (AP)** — Hurricane season is upon us, known for disastrous flooding and high-speed winds in coastal areas of the United States and in the Caribbean and Central America, and emergency management officials are urging people to stay prepared.

Unlike previous hurricane seasons, this summer brings record hot temperatures nationwide and an early onset of storms. Hurricane season runs June 1 to Nov. 30, but usually the most hurricanes occur in September and October, said Jaime Hernandez, the emergency management director for Hollywood, on Florida's Atlantic Coast.

"That's a little bit different this year because of the reality we're dealing with with global warming, warmer sea surface temperatures, atmosphere conditions that are more favorable to tropical cyclone development," Hernandez said. "It could develop at any time."

Since the start of this week, Hurricane Beryl broke records as the first Category 4 storm to form in the Atlantic Ocean in June abnormally early compared to past trends.

Here's how to prepare, what to have on hand, and who should evacuate in a hurricane:

How do I make sure I'm prepared?

Hernandez said his emergency team encourages people to do three key things: make a plan, have an emergency kit and stay informed. □

# Classifieds

## FOR SALE

Matadera 3N Unit-11 ARUBA  
2 storey condo  
3 bedrooms, 3 baths  
living / dinning room  
furnished, renovated  
painted. Pool  
\$425,000 USD furnished  
\$395,000 USD w/appliances  
suzanne@c21apt.com  
WhatsApp: 1-613-291-2121

218084

## Commercial Area

Eagle near Gloria Mall  
Lease land 2630 sqm  
Permit approve to build  
12 commercial units 6 ground floor  
6 1 st floor  
Price : \$750,000  
Call : 011-297-630-1307  
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

218097

## HTTA

### Time share release

Do you want to sell your Time Share

Contact the experts  
38 years of experience  
Call : 011-297-630-1307  
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

## Marriott Surf Club

Palm beach  
Platinum season  
2 BR 2 Bath Ocean side  
Price :\$ 25 ,000  
Call : 011-297-630-1307  
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

## Marriott surf club

Palm beach  
Gold season  
2 BR 2 bath ocean side \$13 K  
2 BR 2 bath ocean view \$12 K  
Call: 011-297-630-1307  
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

## Marriott destination points

For sale at \$ 4 a points  
Transfer fee \$3 a points  
Education fee :\$ 300  
Call : 011-297-630-1307  
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

## House for sale

Borocana Noord  
5 min drive to palm beach / eagle beach  
3 BR 2 Bath with and apartment  
Price : \$600,000  
Call : 011-297-630-1307  
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

## House for sale

Washington Noord  
5 min drive to Palm beach and eagle beach  
4 BR 4 Bath with and apartment  
Price : \$ 500,000  
Call : 011-297-630-1307  
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

## House for sale

Cumana Near C Mart  
10 min drive to Nikki Beach , eagle beach and palm beach  
2 BR 3 bath with a studio apartment and pool  
Price : \$450,000  
Call : 011 -297-630-1307  
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

## House for sale

Savaneta near zee rover  
5 min walk to the ocean  
2 BR 2 Bath Fixer Upper  
Land 1330 m2 lease land ocean view  
Price :\$250,000  
Call :011-297-630-1307  
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

## Renaissance ocean suites

Private Islands  
1 BR WK # 22 room # 2345 \$6K  
1 BR WK # 24 room # 2132\$5 K  
1 BR WK # 34 room # 2316 \$4K  
Call :011-297-630-1307  
johnnypaesch@gmail.com



## Editor

Caribbean Speed Printers N.V.  
Aruba Bank N.V. Acc. #332668  
Caribbean Mercantile Bank N.V.  
Acc. #23951903  
RBC Royal Bank Acc. #1330772

## Editors

Pilar Flores  
Richard Brooks  
Angenette Figuereo

## Sales

Mark Gomes  
Sulaika Croes

## Classifieds

classified@cspnv.com

## Distribution and Collection

accounting@bondia.com

## Social / Website

Juan Luis Pinto

Weststraat 22  
T: 582-7800  
E: news@arubatoday.com  
W: www.arubatoday.com  
f @arubatoday



## HEALTH

## DOCTOR ON DUTY

### Oranjestad

Hospital 7:00 pm / 10:00pm  
Tel. 527 4000

### San Nicolas

Imsan 24 hours  
Tel.524 8833

## PHARMACY ON DUTY

Oranjestad:  
del Pueblo : Tel.582 1253  
San Nicolas:  
Aloe:Tel. 584 4606

## OTHER

Dental Clinic 587 9850  
Blood Bank Aruba 587 0002  
Urgent Care 586 0448  
Walk-In Doctor's Clinic  
+297 588 0539

## EMERGENCY

Police	100
Oranjestad	527 3140
Noord	527 3200
Sta. Cruz	527 2900
San Nicolas	584 5000
Police Tipline	11141
Ambulancia	911
Fire Dept.	115
Red Cross	582 2219

## TAXI SERVICES

Taxi Tas	587 5900
Prof. Taxi	588 0035
Taxi D.T.S.	587 2300
Taxi Serv. Aruba	583 3232
A1 Taxi Serv.	280 2828

## TRAVEL INFO

Aruba Airport	524 2424
American Airlines	582 2700
Avianca	588 0059
Jet Blue	588 2244
Surinam	582 7896

## AID FOUNDATIONS

FAVI- Visually Impaired  
Tel. 582 5051

Alcoholics Anonymous  
Tel. 736 2952

Narcotics Anonymous  
Tel. 583 8989

Fundacion Contra Violencia  
Relacional Tel. 583 5400

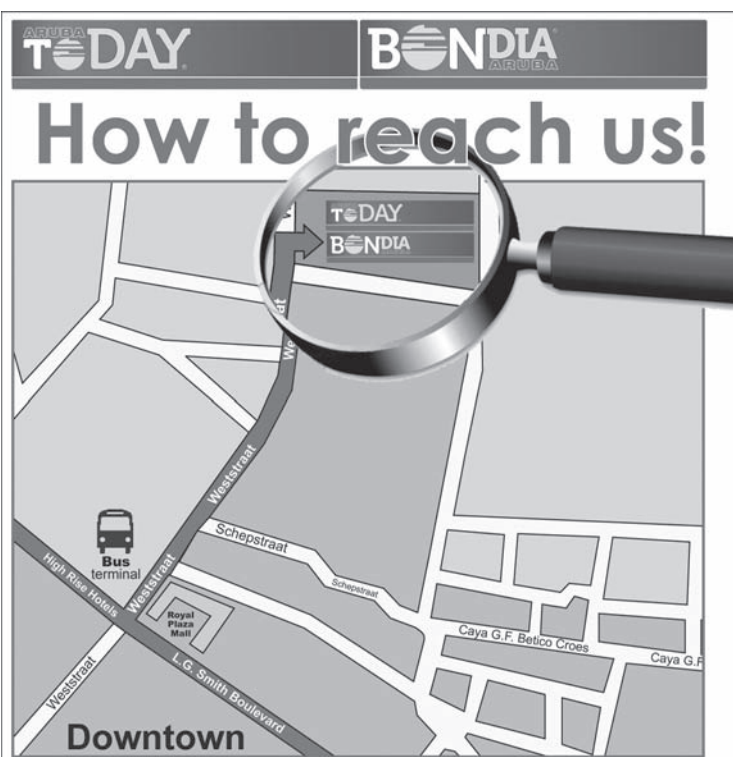
Centre for Diabetes  
Tel. 524 8888

Child Abuse Prevention  
Tel. 582 4433

Quota Club Tel. 525 2672

## General Info

Phone Directory Tel. 118



Like us on  
**Facebook**



facebook.com/arubatoday/



# Massive makos, Queen Bosses and a baby angel shark on Discovery 'Shark Week,' where women shine

By MARK KENNEDY

AP Entertainment Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Imagine stepping into a life-sized whale carcass decoy and steering it into deep water. You're looking yes, looking for a group of hungry sharks to spark a feeding frenzy. To attract them, you shoot out hundreds of gallons of synthetic blood and chum. Then watch them lose it. That's what marine biologist Liv Dixon did for Discovery Channel's "Shark Week," one of several eye-popping moments during the 21 hours of new programing this year where scientists risk everything to understand the apex predators better. "Sharks jump at every opportunity," Dixon says. "And I'm kind of the same. I'm going to jump at every opportunity I get.

You feel the adrenaline running through your veins like your whole body is shaking." The week kicks off Sunday with Dixon's hour-long "Belly of the Beast: Bigger & Bloodier," in which she and veteran "Shark Week" biologist Dr. Austin Gallagher try to lure a so-called Queen Boss off the New Zealand coast.

"We're seeing these kind of subgroups or clans of white sharks, and we think they might be dominated by a larger female that we've termed the Queen Boss, which I love big female en-



This image released by Discovery shows a scene from "Belly of the Beast: Bigger and Bloodier," part of 21 hours of programing celebrating "Shark Week."

ergy coming in here," says Dixon.

"We really just want to tap into the social dynamics of these sharks."

The seven nights of new shows are hosted by John Cena and include scientists traveling to Australia to see why there's been an uptick in attacks near Sydney Harbor, and to Mexico to figure out why there have been three fatal Great White shark incursions near a fishing village.

The show "Big Shark Energy" has researchers comparing some New Zealand sharks' speed, hunting ability and

fearlessness to determine who has the swagger to swim away with a female shark, while other scientists hope to locate the fattest Great White is 6,000 pounds possible? and look at their poop to figure out what they're eating.

"Shark Week" has become a key part of the summer holiday TV schedule, a place where humans safe on land can see ancient apex predators effortlessly and unnervingly slip into view from the dark and snap open their jaws.

"They just seem still oddly like a monster species from

the past," says Howard Lee, the president of Discovery Networks and TLC. "There's always something new to learn that has not yet been discovered. There's even breeds of sharks that we have not always captured." "Shark Week" highlights also include a look at whether angel sharks remain in Japan's waters including remarkable footage of the birth of velvet dogfish shark pups and why a South Pacific resort has become a shark attack hotspot with bull, tiger and Great White sharks moving closer and closer to the beaches.

Associated Press

As always, there is a deep respect for the creatures and strong science beneath the amusing titles, dramatic music and racy titles like "The Real Sharkano" and "Monster Hammerheads: Species X."

The big female energy that Dixon mentioned is apparent out of the water, too. She and researchers like Zandi Ndhlovu, Christine de Silva and Kendyl Berna are front and center, challenging the male-dominated shark waters.

"I hope more than anything it can inspire other young women and females to get involved," says Dixon. "I'm so proud to represent women in this space. I really think that's important for other women, and especially the next generation of young entrepreneurs and scientists." Ndhlovu, a South African-based freediving instructor and founder of The Black Mermaid Foundation, first appeared on "Shark Week" in 2022 and returns for two episodes this season, blazing a way forward in representation.

"It's amazing to be working with sharks and showing up in the world as a Black woman in a way that allows little kids to see that the ocean belongs to them, too increasing that representation around who the explorers and what science means." □

## Ann Wilson announces cancer diagnosis, postpones Heart tour



Ann Wilson performs during Farm Aid on Saturday, Sept. 23, 2023, in Noblesville, Ind.

Associated Press

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — Ann Wilson, lead singer of rock band Heart, says she has cancer and the band is postponing the remaining shows on its Royal Flush Tour while she undergoes treatment. Wilson said in a statement Tuesday that she underwent a surgery to remove a cancerous growth and is recovering steadily, but that her doctors urged her to undergo preventive chemotherapy and take time off from performing "in order to fully recover." That meant the rest of the shows on the North American tour

will be postponed to dates in 2025.

"To the ticket buyers, I really do wish we could do these gigs. Please know that I absolutely plan to be back on stage in 2025," Wilson said in the statement. "My team is getting those details sorted & we'll let you know the plan as soon as we can." All previously purchased tickets for the now-postponed shows will be honored. The rescheduled dates will be announced in the coming weeks, according to the release. "This is merely a pause. I've

much more to sing," Wilson continued in the statement before adding, "Respectfully, this is the last public statement I'd like to make on the matter."

Over 50 shows at stadium and arena venues in dozens of cities across the U.S. and Canada are impacted by the postponement. Select shows were set to include performances from Def Leppard and Journey, and Heart has not announced whether those bands will accompany them at the rescheduled performances. □



# Cavendish breaks Merckx's record for most career Tour de France stage wins with his 35th victory

SAINT-VULBAS, France (AP)

— Mark Cavendish wrote a new chapter of Tour de France history in what is expected to be his last appearance at cycling's biggest race.

The veteran Isle of Man sprinter broke Eddy Merckx's long-standing record for most career Tour de France stage wins with his 35th victory on Wednesday.

The 39-year-old Cavendish sprinted for the win in the fifth stage of the Tour, pulling away some 100 meters from the line despite being bunched in. He crossed the line ahead of Jasper Philipsen and then celebrated with teammates.

Norwegian rider Alexander Kristoff, who had crashed earlier, finished third. They were given the same time of 4 hours, 8 minutes, 46 seconds.

Sixteen years after his first Tour stage win, Cavendish spoke of his constant hunger for victory.

"I always needed to win one more, more more," said Cavendish, who was joined by his children on the podium. "It takes a lot to get there every year. I've got incredible people around me."

Two-time champion Tadej Pogacar narrowly avoided a



Britain's sprinter Mark Cavendish crosses the finish line to win a record 35th Tour de France stage win to break the record of Belgian legend Eddy Merckx in the fifth stage of the Tour de France cycling race over 177.4 kilometers (110.2 miles) with start in Saint-Jean-de-Maurienne and finish in Saint-Vulbas, France, Wednesday, July 3, 2024.

Associated Press

crash and finished nestled in the main pack in 35th place. While Pogacar retained the race leader's yellow jersey, the day belonged to Cavendish.

He equaled Merckx's mark of 34 wins during the 2021 Tour and went close to No. 35 in the seventh stage last year when he was narrowly beaten by Philipsen. He crashed a day later and

broke his right collarbone. Merckx, the Belgian considered the most dominant rider in cycling history, won his 34 individual stages at the Tour from 1969-75.

Cavendish's decision to give it one more shot paid off.

"I just wanted to get the run-in to do it. I'm a little bit in disbelief. Astana put a big gamble on this year to make sure we're good at the Tour

de France," Cavendish said. "We've done it." With his 2023 race ending early, Cavendish decided to put off retirement by a year and came back to try again.

Finally, Cavendish made cycling history, after winning his first Tour stage back in 2008. Other riders were happy for Cavendish, with several stopping to speak with or hug him after the 177.4-kilometer (110-mile) leg from Saint-Jean-de-Maurienne to Saint-Vulbas.

Merckx amassed his wins in an era during which his domination was such that he earned the nickname "The Cannibal."

Unlike Merckx, one of four riders to win the Tour five times, Cavendish has never won the overall title, or come close.

But Cavendish's longevity among his fellow Tour sprinters has no equal.

He won the Tour de France best sprinter's green jersey twice. He also won stages at all three Grand Tours the others are the Giro d'Italia and Spanish Vuelta and became a world champion in 2011. Cavendish joined Astana after his contract with Quick-Step Alpha Vinyl expired and he was overlooked for the 2022 Tour.

Cavendish had faced a difficult start to this Tour. During the first stage, he appeared to struggle with stomach and heat issues.

"I know how it works, my trainer and everyone around me knows how it is," Cavendish said. "I've done 15 Tours de France. I don't like to have bad days, I don't like to suffer but I know it's just in the head and to push through it." □

# Coco Gauff and Carlos Alcaraz advance at Wimbledon, Naomi Osaka loses

By KEN MAGUIRE

AP Sports Writer

LONDON (AP) — Coco Gauff likes No. 1 Court at Wimbledon.

It's where she beat Venus Williams back in 2019 when Gauff made her Wimbledon debut at age 15.

On Wednesday, Gauff beat qualifier Anca Todoni 6-2, 6-1 to advance to the third round at the All England Club.

"This is the court where I first started here at Wimbledon. Court 1 is always a special place for me to play on," the 20-year-old Gauff said in her on-court interview.

The victory also allows Gauff, the No. 2 seed, to move another step away

from last year's first-round exit. "Overall, I just learned about life a lot," the U.S. Open champion said when asked about putting that three-set loss to Sofia Kenin behind her.

"I just realized that, yes, what I do I'm very passionate about, but it's not ever that serious and sometimes the world can make you feel like there's so much pressure, there's so much expectation," she said. "At the end of the (day), it's a game. It's sport."

The 19-year-old Todoni is from Romania and was making her Grand Slam debut.

"I do think I could have played cleaner at some

moments," Gauff said.

Five years ago, Gauff beat Williams a five-time Wim-



Coco Gauff of the United States plays a forehand return to Anca Todoni of Romania during their match on day three at the Wimbledon tennis championships in London, Wednesday, July 3, 2024.

Associated Press

bledon champion 6-4, 6-4 in the first round and eventually reached the last 16,

all in her Grand Slam debut. Defending champion Carlos Alcaraz trailed 6-5 in the first set Wednesday before coming back to beat Aleksander Vukic 7-6 (5), 6-2, 6-2, setting up a third-round meeting with No. 29 Frances Tiafoe after the American eliminated Borna Coric 7-6 (5), 6-1, 6-3.

When told by the on-court interviewer that Tiafoe said he's "coming after you," the 21-year-old Spaniard replied with a smile: "I'm going for him."

"We played a really good match in the U.S. Open," the No. 3 seed said of their 2022 semifinal that Alcaraz won at Flushing Meadows. □



# LeBron James agrees to a 2-year extension with the Los Angeles Lakers, AP source says

By **TIM REYNOLDS**  
**AP Basketball Writer**

LeBron James is making it official: He's coming back for a record-tying 22nd season in the NBA, one where the league's all-time scoring leader could share the floor with his son Bronny as teammates with the Los Angeles Lakers.

James has agreed to a two-year contract to remain with the Lakers, a person with knowledge of the negotiations said Wednesday. The second year of the deal is at James' option and means he could become a free agent again next summer, said the person, who spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the agreement had not been



Los Angeles Lakers' LeBron James attends a news conference held to introduce the team's draft picks, his son, Bronny James and Dalton Knecht, in El Segundo, Calif., Tuesday, July 2, 2024.

Associated Press

announced publicly. Lakers and James' agent, Paul, may agree on a salary slightly less than the max ESPN reported that the Klutch Sports CEO Rich

that James could have gotten a move that could keep the team from reaching the second apron and preserve some roster flexibility going forward.

Either way, the expectation is that James will make around \$50 million give or take a little bit this coming season, pushing his career on-court earnings to around \$530 million and making him the first player in NBA history to eclipse the \$500 million mark.

It will be James' 22nd season in the NBA, tying Vince Carter for the league record. The Lakers selected Bronny James last week in the second round of the draft, putting them in position to have the first on-court father-son duo in NBA history.

Getting the deal done clears one logistical hurdle: LeBron James needed a new deal in place before he could take the floor with USA Basketball for the start of its training camp in Las Vegas this weekend, one where the squad will start preparations for the Paris Olympics. James will play in the Olympics for the fourth time, his first since helping the U.S. win gold at the 2012 London Games.

He'll turn 40 in December and averaged 25.7 points, 7.3 rebounds and 8.3 assists last season as the oldest active player in the league.

Not only is James the all-time leader in points (40,474), but he's fourth in assists (11,009), sixth in games played (1,492), and eighth in both 3-pointers made (2,410) and steals (2,275). His 20 All-Star selections is a record, as are his 20 appearances on the All-NBA team. He holds the records for being both the youngest player, and oldest player, to make an All-NBA squad.

James became the youngest to make All-NBA when he was voted onto the team for the 2004-05 season. This past season, he became the first player to be age 39 or older in what became an All-NBA campaign. □



**Orchid Casino**  
Palm Beach, Aruba

**Come and join the FUN!**  
**Everyday from 10am till 6pm**  
**We have DOUBLE points**

**BINGO**  
**Play Every Day**  
**Bingo starts at 4:30PM**

**Operations Hours**  
**Slots: 10am**  
**Table: 4pm**



**Slot Play \$10**



**Match Play \$15**

**Sign up and become a VIP Member.**  
**ID required upon redemption!**



Located at RIU Antillas. For more info call: 5257777 or Follow us on